

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 307229
ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 COME-00 DODE-00 NSF-02
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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:LJA
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB
NEA/IAI GDKULICK
/NEA DHSMALL
NEA/EGY GRBEYER
NEA/ARN ETUNIS
NEA/ARP FGERLACH

----- 071787 /74-62

R 202035Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS STATE 307229

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, IS

SUBJECT: ATLANTIS II CLEARANCE REQUEST - APR 1977

1. R/V ATLANTIS II, OPERATED BY THE WOODS HOLE OCEANO-
GRAPHIC INSTITUTION AND FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE
FOUNDATION AND OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH, IS PLANNING TO
CONDUCT AN OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY IN THE GULF OF
AQABA. THE GULF IS ESSENTIALLY AN UNSTRUCTURED AREA
OF THE OCEAN THAT HAS FORMED BY VERY RECENT SEA-FLOOR
SPREADING MOVEMENTS. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS
TO TAKE PISTON CORES AND MAKE SEISMIC, MAGNETIC, AND
GRAVITY MEASUREMENTS TO AID IN UNDERSTANDING HOW SUCH
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MOVEMENTS BEGIN AND WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE IN THEIR INITIAL
STAGES.

2. DR. DAVID A. ROSS IS THE CHIEF SCIENTIST, WHO HAS
BEEN IN CONTACT WITH YOHAY BEN-NUN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
ISRAELI OCEANOGRAPHIC AND LIMNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, HAIFA.

THERE ARE BERTHS AVAILABLE FOR 5 GOI PARTICIPANTS AND ALL DATA WILL BE SHARED WITH THE GOI. MASTER OF THE VESSEL IS DAVID F. CASILES AND THERE IS A CREW OF 30 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 26.

3. A COPY OF THE SHIP'S TRACK IS BEING POUCHED. ALL STATIONS ARE LOCATED ON THE ISRAELI SIDE OF THE GULF. SOME RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE RED SEA BUT OUTSIDE 12 NAUTICAL MILES. THE SHIP WILL DEPART DJIBOUTI 31 MARCH AND ARRIVE SUEZ 18 APRIL.

4. EQUIPMENT TO BE USED INCLUDES A CONTINUOUS SEISMIC PROFILER, ECHO-SOUNDER, GRAVIMETER, MAGNETOMETER, PISTON CORER, NANSEN BOTTLES, BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLERS, AND NISKIN SAMPLERS.

5. ATLANTIS II IS 1529 GROSS TONS, 210 FT LONG AND 16 FT DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KADC AND SHIP MONITORS EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES.

6. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR R/V ATLANTIS II TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE WATERS AND ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF ADJACENT TO ISRAELI AND SINAI COASTS ON THE GULF OF AQABA DURING THE PERIOD 31 MARCH - 18 APRIL 1977. SHIP'S AGENT WILL ARRANGE PORT CALLS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OCEANOGRAPHY, SURVEYS, ATLANTIS II R/V
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE307229
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WERB:LJA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760467-0341
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761227/aaaaaix.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATLANTIS II CLEARANCE REQUEST - APR 1977
TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, IS
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006